

these exclusions or deletions have occurred. If Customs believes that a broker is using ACH for his quota-class entries and not using statement processing and ACH for the largest possible portion of his eligible non-special class entries, the ABI participant may be consulted by Customs as to why he has not used statement processing and ACH for certain entries. If Customs is not satisfied, after such consultation, that there were sound articulable business reasons for the exclusion or deletion of non-special class entries, Customs may disqualify the participant from using statement processing/ACH for quota-class entries.

(e) *Scheduled statement date.* Entry/entry summaries and entry summaries must be designated for statement processing within 10 working days after the date of entry. It is the responsibility of the ABI filer using statement processing to ensure that the elected scheduled statement date is within that 10-day timeframe. Customs will not warn the filer if the scheduled statement date given is late.

[T.D. 89–104, 54 FR 50497, Dec. 7, 1989, as amended by T.D. 98–51, 63 FR 29125, May 28, 1998; T.D. 99–75, 64 FR 56439, Oct. 20, 1999; CBP Dec. 03–13, 68 FR 43630, July 24, 2003]

§ 24.26 Automated Clearinghouse credit.

(a) *Description.* Automated Clearinghouse (ACH) credit is an optional payment method that allows a payer to transmit statement processing payments (see § 24.25) or deferred tax payments (see § 24.4) or bill payments (see § 24.3) electronically, through its financial institution, directly to the Customs account maintained by the Department of the Treasury.

(b) *Enrollment procedure.* A payer interested in enrolling in the ACH credit program must indicate such interest by providing the following information to the Financial Management Services Center, U.S. Customs Service, 6026 Lakeside Boulevard, Indianapolis, Indiana 46278: Payer name and address; payer contact name(s); payer telephone number(s) and facsimile number; payer identification number (importer number or Social Security number or Customs assigned number); and 3-digit filer code.

(c) *Routing and format instructions.* Following receipt of the enrollment information, the Financial Management Services Center will provide the payer with specific ACH credit routing and format instructions and will advise the payer that the following information must be provided to its financial institution when originating its payments: Company name; company contact person name and telephone number; company identification number (coded Internal Revenue Service employer identification number or DUNS number or Customs assigned number); company payment description; effective date; receiving company name; transaction code; Customs transit routing number and Customs account number; payment amount; payer identifier (importer number or Social Security number or Customs assigned number or filer code if the payer is a broker who is the importer of record); document number (daily statement number, entry or warehouse withdrawal number for a deferred tax payment, or bill number); payment type code; settlement date; and document payment amount.

(d) *Prenotification procedure.* Before effecting any payments of funds through the ACH credit process, the payer must follow a prenotification procedure, involving a non-funds message transmission through its financial institution to the Customs account, in order to validate the routing instructions. When the routing instructions are validated, the Financial Management Services Center will notify the payer that the prenotification transaction has been accepted and that payments may be originated on or after the tenth calendar day following the prenotification acceptance date.

(e) *Payment origination procedures—(1) General.* Once the payer has received authorization to begin originating ACH credit payments under paragraph (d) of this section, the payer, through its financial institution, must originate each payment transaction to the Customs account no later than one business day prior to the payment due date. The payer's account will be charged by the financial institution on the settlement date identified in the transaction. The payer is responsible for following the routing and format

instructions provided by Customs and for ensuring the accuracy of the information when originating each payment. Improperly formatted or erroneous information provided by the payer will delay the prompt posting of the payment to the receivable.

(2) *Procedures for daily statement filers.* The procedures set forth in § 24.25(c) for ABI filers using statement processing remain applicable when payment is effected through ACH credit. However, when the ABI filer is a customs broker who is not the importer of record and thus is not responsible for the payment, the ABI filer must provide the statement number and statement amount to the importer of record at least one business day prior to the due date so that the importer of record can originate the payment.

(f) *Date of collection.* The date that the ACH credit payment transaction is received by Customs shall be the collection date which equates to the settlement date. The appropriate daily statement or entry or warehouse withdrawal or bill shall be identified as paid as of that collection date.

(g) *Removal from the ACH credit program.* If a payer repeatedly provides improperly formatted or erroneous information when originating ACH credit payments, the Financial Management Services Center may advise the payer in writing to refrain from using ACH credit and to submit its payments by bank draft or check pursuant to § 24.1 or, in the case of daily statement payments, to use the ACH debit payment method under § 24.25.

[T.D. 98-51, 63 FR 29125, May 28, 1998]

§ 24.32 Claims; unpaid compensation of deceased employees and death benefits.

(a) A claim made by a designated beneficiary or a surviving spouse for unpaid compensation due an officer or employee at the time of his death shall be executed on standard Form 1153, Claim of Designated Beneficiary and/or Surviving Spouse for Unpaid Compensation of Deceased Civilian Employee. A claim made by anyone other than a designated beneficiary or surviving spouse for unpaid compensation due an officer or employee at the time of his death shall be executed on stand-

ard Form 1155, Claim for Unpaid Compensation of Deceased Civilian Employee. The claims shall be forwarded to the Customs office where the deceased was employed.

(b) Claims for death benefits, either in the form of an annuity or lump-sum payment of the amount to the credit of the deceased officer or employee in the Retirement and Disability Fund shall be executed on standard Form 100, Application for Death Benefit, and forwarded together with a certified copy of the public record of death directly to the Office of Personnel Management, Washington, DC 20415.

[28 FR 14808, Dec. 31, 1963, as amended by T.D. 91-77, 56 FR 46114, Sept. 10, 1991]

§ 24.34 Vouchers; vendors' bills of sale; invoices.

(a) Vouchers or invoices for transportation and related services which are intended for payment from official funds shall contain the following certification signed by the claimant:

I certify that the above bill is correct and just and that payment has not been received.

Vouchers, vendors' bills of sale, or invoices for purchases or services other than personal do not require the foregoing certification.

(b) Every voucher shall be in the name of the person or persons furnishing the service or supplies, except in the case of a service or supplies paid for in an emergency by a Customs officer or employee, in which case the voucher may be in the name of the officer or employee who made the payment.

(c) The signature of a claimant made by a mark shall be attested in each case by a disinterested witness.

(d) The dates appearing on vouchers and on receipts filed in support thereof shall always be the actual dates of the transactions recorded or action taken thereon. As many copies in memorandum form, duly authenticated if desired, may be prepared as administrative or other requirements demand.

(e) When an erasure, interlineation, or change of any kind is made in a voucher after it has been certified by the claimant, such correction or change shall be initialed and dated by the claimant.